

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-5 and 10-13 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method of protecting the integrity of
2 | a computer system, the method comprising:
3 - loading a new system component into a system with a
4 computer;
5 - in response to said loading, sending information about
6 | said system component and a configuration of the system ~~with a~~ to
7 | an acceptance server via a remote communication network;
8 - verifying with said acceptance server, using said
9 information, ~~whether the system with a computer including the~~
10 ~~system component and configured according to information about the~~
11 configuration meets a criterion of interoperability;
12 - sending an acceptance signal from the acceptance server
13 | to the system with ~~a~~ said computer via the remote communication
14 network;
15 - qualifying operation of the system with ~~a~~ said computer
16 including the system component dependent on the acceptance signal.

1 2.(Currently amended) A method according to Claim 1,
2 | comprising:
3 | - sending ~~information~~ data that determines a computer
4 | program for controlling a controllable apparatus from the
5 | controllable apparatus to the system with a said computer, when the
6 | controllable apparatus is coupled to the system with a said
7 | computer via a local communication network;
8 | - said system component being the computer program, the
9 | acceptance server being directed at verifying whether the computer
10 | program will execute in the configuration according to the
11 | criterion of interoperability;
12 | - control of an operation of the controllable apparatus by
13 | the system with a said computer with the computer program being
14 | qualified according to the acceptance signal.

1 3.(Currently amended) A system with a computer, the system
2 | comprising:
3 | - means for introducing a new system component into the
4 | system;

- 5 - an acceptance server;
- 6 - a remote communication network;
- 7 - an apparatus coupled to the acceptance server via the
- 8 remote communication network, the apparatus being arranged to send
- 9 information about said system component and a configuration of the
- 10 | system with a said computer to the acceptance server via the remote
- 11 | communication network, in response to said loading;
- 12 | - said acceptance server being arranged to verify, using
- 13 | said information, whether the ~~system with a computer including the~~
- 14 | ~~system component and configured according to information about the~~
- 15 | ~~configuration~~ meets a criterion of interoperability and to send an
- 16 | acceptance signal to the system with a said computer via the remote
- 17 | communication network;
- 18 - the apparatus being arranged to qualify operation of the
- 19 | system with a said computer including the system component
- 20 | dependent on the acceptance signal.

- 1 4. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in a system with a
- 2 computer, comprising
- 3 - the computer;

4 - an input for receiving a computer program for execution
5 by the computer;
6 - an communication interface for communication to a remote
7 acceptance server, the apparatus being arranged to send information
8 about the computer program and a configuration of the apparatus to
9 the acceptance server and to receive an acceptance ~~server~~ signal in
10 ~~return~~ response to said information, said acceptance server using
11 said information to verify whether the configuration meets a
12 criterion of interoperability, the apparatus being arranged to
13 qualify execution of the computer program by the computer according
14 to the acceptance signal.

1 5. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 4
2 comprising a connection for ~~connection~~ connecting to a controllable
3 apparatus, the connection comprising said input for receiving the
4 computer program, the computer program being a program for
5 controlling the controllable apparatus via the connection, the
6 apparatus qualifying control of the controllable apparatus
7 according to the acceptance signal.

1 6.(Original) An apparatus according to Claim 4, the
2 information about the configuration identifying the type of an
3 apparatus, said criterion including a sub-criterion for the
4 compatibility of the apparatus, as identified by the information
5 about the configuration, and the computer program.

1 7.(Original) An apparatus according to Claim 4, the computer
2 program being arranged to execute selectable ones of a plurality of
3 functions, the acceptance signal comprising an identification of
4 the acceptability of respective ones of the functions, said
5 qualifying being selective for the respective functions.

1 8.(Original) An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said
2 qualifying comprises disabling execution of a part or whole of
3 computer program, as far as identified as unacceptable by the
4 acceptance signal.

1 9.(Original) An apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said
2 qualifying comprises generating a warning signal to a user about
3 the computer program or parts thereof when a user attempts to cause

4 operation of computer program or the parts thereof and/or
5 generating the warning signal upon any first user action after
6 reception of the acceptance signal.

1 10. (Currently amended) An apparatus according to Claim 4, the
2 apparatus being arranged to ~~execute~~ enable unqualified execution of
3 at least part of the computer program until the apparatus has
4 received the acceptance signal received from the acceptance server.

1 11. (Currently amended) A method of providing support for a
2 system with a computer, the method comprising:

3 - providing an acceptance server coupled to a communication
4 network;

5 - receiving information ~~with~~ by the acceptance server about
6 a configuration of the system with a said computer and a new system
7 component of that system with a said computer via the communication
8 network;

9 - checking with the acceptance server whether the ~~system~~
10 ~~component and configured according to information about the~~
11 ~~configuration~~ meets a criterion of interoperability;

12 | - sending an acceptance signal back from the acceptance
13 | server to a source of said information, the acceptance signal
14 | signaling whether said criterion of interoperability is met.

1 12. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 11,
2 | wherein the acceptance server is selectively reachable through the
3 | communication network using a network address, the network address
4 | being specific to a predetermined type of apparatus, or family of
5 | types of apparatuses, the criterion being specialized to said
6 | family.

1 13. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 11,
2 | wherein the new system component is a computer program, the
3 | information comprising at least part of a code of said computer
4 | program, the method comprising analyzing ~~the~~ executable code with
5 | the acceptance server to determine whether its effect meets the
6 | criterion when executed by the system with ~~a~~ said computer.

1 14. (Original) A method according to Claim 13, wherein the
2 | computer program is arranged to handle selectable ones of a set of

3 events, the server determining handling which of the events meets
4 said criterion, the acceptance signal particularizing which of the
5 events are acceptable.